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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT**

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



Attorney Docket
(Confirmation No.)

CONN001
6620

First Named Inventor

K.P. Conrad

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Application Number

09/780,752

Filing Date

February 9, 2001

Group Art Unit

1653

Examiner Name

S.W. Liu

Title: *Use of relaxin to treat diseases related to vasoconstriction*

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 26, 2002. The Restriction Requirement set forth a one-month time period for response, making a response due on or before October 26, 2002. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

I. REMARKS

In the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner required election of one of the following groups of claims:

- Group I: claims 1-19, drawn to methods of treating hypertension, increasing renal function, and treating an ischemic condition;
- Group II: claims 20-22, drawn to a method of promoting wound healing; and
- Group III: claims 23-27, drawn to a method of increasing production of an angiogenic cytokine, a method increasing endothelin type B receptor activation, and a method of increasing nitric oxide production.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-19), with traverse. Applicants expressly reserve the right under 35 USC §121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of this application.

This election is made with traverse. As stated in the MPEP §803, if search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. It is Applicants' position that it would not be unduly burdensome to perform a search on claims 1-27 together. Accordingly, Applicants traverse the restriction requirement.